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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
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E.O. 11652:N/A
TAGS:PFOR, CY
SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING - CYPRUS
FOLLOWING ARE EXCERPTS FROM DEPARTMENT NOON PRESS BRIEFING JULY 19 DEALING WITH THE SITUATION IN CYPRUS.
QUOTE:
EV
MR. ANDERSON: I HAVE ONE ANNOUNCEMENT TO MAKE. THE SECRETARY WILL RECEIVE ARCHBISHOP MAKARIOS, AT THE ARCHBISHOP'S REQUEST, ON MONDAY, JULY 22, HERE IN WASHINGTON. THIS

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REQUEST WAS MADE THROUGH THE CYPRIOT EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON. AND WHEN WE HAVE A TIME FOR IT, I'LL GET IT TO YOU.

Q: IS HE RECEIVING HIM IN HIS CAPACITY AS CHIEF OF STATE OF CYPRUS?

A: WE'VE GONE OVER THIS QUESTION FOR THE LAST THREE OR FOUR DAYS. AND I JUST REFER YOU TO THE RECORD ON THE QUESTION OF RECOGNITION AND ALL OF THIS AND I'M NOT GOING TO HAVE ANY FURTHER COMMENT. YOU CAN JUST CHECK THE RECORD.

Q: AN AMERICAN WOMAN IS REPORTED IN JAIL IN NICOSIA, I ASSUME -- ANYWAY, IN CYPRUS. DO YOU KNOW ABOUT IT?

A: YES. THE WOMAN'S NAME IS BARBARA LYSSARIDES. AND HER MAIDEN NAME WAS CORNWALL. SHE IS THE WIFE OF THE DOC-

TOR OF ARCHBISHOP MAKARIOS, AND SHE HAS BEEN ARRESTED. A CONSULAR OFFICER SAW HER YESTERDAY AND SHE IS IN GOOD HEALTH. WE HAVE, AT MRS. LYSSARIDES'REQUEST, INFORMED HER MOTHER OF THIS.

Q: WHAT WAS SHE CHARGED WITH?

A: NO INDICATION YET WHAT CHARGES MAY BE BROUGHT. BUT OUR EMBASSY THERE IS OBVIOUSLY GOING TO FOLLOW THIS CASE VERY, VERY CLOSELY. AND THAT'S ALL I CAN GIVE YOU AT THIS STAGE.

Q: THE TURKISH PRIME MINISTER, MR. ECEVIT, SAID IN ANKARA THAT WHILE HE WAS IN LONDON HE WAS ASSURED BY MR. SISCO THAT THE AMERICAN FLOW OF AID TO TURKEY, WHICH HAD BEEN CUT BACK, WILL BE RESUMED.

FIRST, WHAT HAS BEEN CUT BACK; AND WHAT IS BEING RESUMED?

A: I CAN'T COMMENT ON IT BECAUSE I AM UNAWARE OF -- IF THAT IS WHAT MR. SISCO SAID TO THE PRIME MINISTER, I JUST CAN'T COMMENT ON IT. I'M NOT BRIEFED ON IT.

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Q: CAN YOU ALSO GET A RESPONSE TO WHAT WAS CUT BACK AND WHAT IS BEING RESUMED?

A: WELL, IF THAT IN FACT IS THE CASE, I DO NOT KNOW. I CAN'T CONFIRM THAT THAT IS THE CASE. BUT I'LL BE GLAD TO LOOK INTO IT FOR YOU THOUGH.

Q: WAS ANYTHING CUT BACK BEYOND THE SPECIAL OPIUM MONEY?

A: I DO NOT KNOW WHETHER ANYTHING ELSE WAS CUT BACK.

Q: DOES IT STILL STAND THE WAY IT HAS UP TILL NOW ON THE QUESTION OF JUDGMENT ON WHETHER THERE WAS OUTSIDE INFLUENCE LEADING TO THIS COUP?

A: LET ME TALK ABOUT IT THIS WAY -- MAKE A GENERAL STATEMENT FIRST TO YOU -- THAT WE ARE OPPOSED TO MILITARY INTERVENTION FROM ANY QUARTER AND WE ARE CONCENTRATING OUR EFFORTS ON THE DIPLOMATIC PROCESS, WHICH HAS NOT YET BEEN EXHAUSTED. THAT IS OUR CURRENT POSITION.

NOW, WITH REGARD TO THE PAST, I'VE JUST SAID THAT WE ARE CLEARLY OPPOSED TO INTERVENTION BY OUTSIDE FORCES. AND

TO THE EXTENT THAT THIS MAY HAVE OCCURRED IN THIS CASE, WHY, WE NATURALLY DEPLORE IT.

Q: THAT STATEMENT, THE ONE YOU'VE JUST MADE -- IS THAT MADE IN THE CONTEXT OF TURKISH WARSHIPS MOVING TOWARDS CYPRUS?

A: YES, IT IS. I MEAN, WE'VE SEEN THESE REPORTS. WE HAVE NOT SEEN ANY CONFIRMATION OF THESE REPORTS BY THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT.

AND THEN I WOULD MAKE THIS GENERAL STATEMENT THAT I JUST MADE.

Q: CAN YOU INCLUDE POSSIBLE GREEK INVOLVEMENT BEFORE THE FACT AND DURING THE ACTUAL COUP? IS THAT ALSO INCLUDED IN YOUR STATEMENT ABOUT OUTSIDE INTERVENTION?

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A: WELL, THEN I SAID -- I ADDED IN A COMMENT TO THE QUESTION THAT I RECEIVED -- AND TO THE EXTENT IT MAY HAVE OCCURRED IN THIS CASE. WE NATURALLY DEPLORE IT.

Q: DO YOU KNOW IF THAT HAS OCCURRED?

A: I WILL LEAVE IT RIGHT WHERE IT IS.

Q: HOW DOES THAT RECONCILE WITH THE AGREEMENT RIGHT HERE? THERE HAVE BEEN MANY REFERENCES TO THE AGREEMENT BY TURKEY, GREECE AND BRITAIN TO GUARANTEE THE INDEPENDENCE AND SOVEREIGNTY OF CYPRUS. WOULD A TURKISH RESPONSE TO THAT OBLIGATION BE REGARDED BY THE UNITED STATES AS AN INTERVENTION?

A: LET ME REPLY IN THIS WAY. IT REALLY GOES BACK TO THE STATEMENT I JUST MADE -- THAT OUR POSITION IN THIS SITUATION THAT WE'VE BEEN EMPHASIZING ALL ALONG IS THAT WE SUPPORT THE INDEPENDENCE AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY . OF THE ISLAND OF CYPRUS AND IT S CONSTITUTIONAL ARRANGE-MENTS, AND OUR OBJECTIVES HERE ARE TO PREVENT A GREEK-TURKISH WAR.

AND IN CONNECTION WITH UNDER SECRETARY SISCO'S TRIP, HIS MISSION IS TO TRY AND ENCOURAGE THE PARTIES TO FIND A SOLUTION WHICH WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE TO ALL.

AS I HAVE SAID BEFORE HERE, WE ARE URGING RESTRAINT ON ALL THE PARTIES.

Q: APART FROM THE RECORD, THIS IS THE FIRST TIME THAT YOU'RE FACED WITH THE PROBLEM OF DEALING WITH MAKARIOS FACE TO FACE. ARE YOU GOING TO HAVE A DECISION BY MONDAY ON WHAT THE OFFICIAL POSITION IS TOWARD THE GOVERNMENT OF CYPRUS?

A: I JUST DON'T WANT TO COMMENT ON IT. I DON'T WANT TO SPECULATE ON THE --

Q: ARE YOU GOING TO DEAL WITH HIM AS A HEAD OF STATE OR

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NOW?

A: WELL, THE ARCHBISHOP REQUESTED A MEETING WITH THE SECRETARY, AND THE SECRETARY IS GOING TO BE MEETING WITH HIM ON MONDAY.
Q: AS A PRIVATE CITIZEN?
Q: AS ARCHBISHOP OR AS PRESIDENT?

A: HE'S MEETING WITH ARCHBISHOP MAKARIOS ON MONDAY, AND I'M NOT GOING TO GET INTO THE OTHER QUESTION THAT YOU HAVE RAISED. I JUST REFER YOU TO WHAT I HAVE BEEN SAYING FOR THE LAST THREE DAYS.

Q: THE CYPRIOTS HAVE SENT -- OR THE SAMPSON REGIME HAS SENT -- A REPRESENTATIVE TO THE UNITED NATIONS AND HAVE CALLED BACK MR. ROSSIDES, AND THERE'S APPARENTLY GOING TO BE A CREDENTIALS FIGHT OVER WHO REPRESENTS CYPRUS.

A: YES.

Q: HOW IS THE UNITED STATES GOING TO STAND ON THAT?

A: I AM UNAWARE IF THERE IS GOING TO BE A CREDENTIALS FIGHT OR NOT. I UNDERSTAND THAT THE ARCHBISHOP WILL BE ADDRESSING THE SECURITY COUNCIL AS PRESIDENT OF CYPRUS. THE DECISION ON THAT WAS A SECURITY COUNCIL DECISION. THE SECRETARY-GENERAL RECOMMENDED THIS AND IT WAS A SECURITY COUNCIL DECISION.

ON THE QUESTION OF ROSSIDES, THE CYPRIOT REPRESENTATIVE, I FRANKLY AM NOT AWARE JUST WHAT THE SITUATION IS THERE. I JUST CAN'T ANSWER THAT.

Q: YES, BUT CAN'T THE SAMPSON MAN COME IN WITHOUT AN AMERICAN VISA?

A: ON THAT QUESTION, I WAS ASKED YESTERDAY -- AND I THINK WE POSTED THIS -- IF THERE HAD BEEN ANY OTHER MEETINGS BETWEEN THE FOREIGN MINISTER IN NICOSIA WITH OUR AMBASSADOR. THERE WAS ANOTHER MEETING YESTERDAY, AND THE SUBJECT OF THAT MEETING WAS THE QUESTION OF VISAS FOR

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A GROUP OF CYPRIOT OFFICIALS TO COME TO THE UNITED NAPONS.

THIS GROUP HAS EITHER JUST ARRIVED OR IS ABOUT TO ARRIVE. AND WE SENT OUT AUTHORIZATION YESTERDAY, IN KEEPING WITH

OUR OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS AGREEMENT, TO ISSUE VISAS.

NOW, BECAUSE OF THE TIME ELEMENT THERE -- AND I BELIEVE THESE GENTLEMEN WERE GETTING A CHARTERED FLIGHT FROM SOME PLACE - I DON'T KNOW QUITE WHERE - AND SO THEY HAD TO LEAVE BEFORE THE VISAS WERE ACTUALLY ISSUED. BUT THIS WILL BE TAKEN CARE OF IN NEW YORK WHEN THEY ARRIVE.

Q: ON CYPRUS, DOES UNDER SECRETARY SISCO HAVE ANY PLANS TO GO TO ANKARA FROM ATHENS, PERHAPS?

A: YES. HE IS ABOUT TO LEAVE ATHENS NOW. HE WILL GO TO ANKARA WHERE HE'LL BE SEEING THE PRIME MINISTER, WE EXPECT.

Q: THERE ARE STILL NO PLANS TO GO TO NICOSIA?

A: NO, THERE ARE STILL NO PLANS TO GO TO NICOSIA. AND HIS MISSION IS, AS OF THIS MOMENT, AN OPEN-ENDED MISSION. I MEAN, THERE IS NO SET TIME FOR HIM TO RETURN TO WASHINGTON, EITHER.

Q: HOW DOES THE STATE DEPARTMENT CHARACTERIZE HIS PROGRESS, OR LACK OF IT, IN HIS MISSION, AT THIS STAGE?

A: I DESCRIBED WHAT HIS MISSION IS A MOMENT AGO. I SAID THAT THE MISSION IS STILL GOING ON. I THINK IT'S PREMATURE TO SAY HOW IT'S COMING ALONG.

AS I ALSO SAID EARLIER, WE ARE CONCENTRATING OUR EFFORTS ON THE DIPLOMATIC PROCESS HERE, WHICH IS NOT YET EXHAUSTED. AND MR. SISCO IS A KEY MAN IN THAT.

Q: WELL, IS THERE HEIGHTENED CONCERN OVER THE POSSIBILITY OR THE IMMINENCE OF WAR BREAKING OUT BETWEEN THEM OR ANY

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OUTSIDE INFLUENCE?

A: I DON'T WANT TO CHARACTERIZE IT AS "HEIGHTENED CONCERN." I MEAN, WE WANT TO TRY AND DO EVERYTHING WE CAN TO MAKE SURE THAT WAR DOES NOT BREAK OUT, AND I JUST LEAVE IT THERE FOR NOW.

Q: TO GET BACK TO THIS QUESTION ON THE SHIPS, YOU SAID THAT YOU'VE SEEN THE REPORTS THAT HE SHIPS HAD LEFT BUT YOU HAVE NO CONFIRMATION. ARE YOU SAYING THAT THE GOVERNMENT DOES NOT KNOW ---

A: NO. WHAT I SAID WAS THIS: I'VE SEEN THE SAME REPORTS THAT YOU HAVE ON TURKISH SHIP MOVEMENTS. WE HAVE NOT SEEN ANY CONFIRMATION OF THESE MOVEMENTS BY THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT. THAT IS WHAT I SAID.

-Q: WE CERTAINLY HAVE

A: LET'S LEAVE IT THAT I DO NOT THINK IT'S APPROPRIATE FOR US TO COMMENT ON THE MOVEMENT OF TURKISH WARSHIPS, IN THE ABSENCE OF ANY STATEMENT BY THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT. I'M JUST NOT GOING TO GET INTO IT.

Q: ANOTHR ASPECT OF THIS CYPRUS THING, THERE HAS BEEN SOME TALK OF, FROM THE TURKISH SIDE, APPARENTLY TRYING TO GET A NEW TREATY TO REPLACE THE 1960 TRIPARTITE AGREEMENT ON CYPRUS. I'D WONDERING IF OUR GOVERNMENT IS AWARE OF THAT IDEA ON THE PART OF THE TURKS AND WHETHER WE WOULD CONSIDER EITHER PARTICIPATING IN THE NEGOTIATION OF SUCH A THING OR PARTICIPATING IN THE CONCLUSION OF SUCH AN AGREEMENT?

A: I'M UNAWARE OF ANY SUCH PROPOSITION, WHETHER IT WAS DISCUSSED WITH MR. SISCO, WHETHER IT HAS BEEN DISCUSSED HERE. AND I OBVIOUSLY WOULD NOT WANT TO COMMENT EVEN IF I WERE AWARE ON YOUR SECOND PART OF YOUR QUESTION.

Q: THERE ARE PRESS REPORTS THAT SISCO PROPOSED A PLAN THAT WOULD INVOLVE THE PARTITION OF CYPRUS WITH THE TURKS MAINTAINING AN INDEPENDENT STATE AND, IF THE GREEK

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COMMUNITY WANTED TO, TO UNIFY WITH GREECE. IS THERE ANY TRUTH TO THAT?

A: AS FAR AS I'M CONCERNED, THERE IS NO TRUTH WHATSOEVER TO THAT.

Q: WHEN YOU SAY THE MISSION IS OPEN-ENDED, YOU MEAN HE IS LIKELY TO GO BACK TO ATHENS AFTER HE GOES TO ANKARA?

A: HIS MOVEMENT BEYOND ANKARA WILL DEPEND ON THE OUTCOME OF THE TALKS THERE. HE MIGHT VERY WELL GO BACK TO LONDON, FOR EXAMPLE. IT JUST IS NOT SET YET.

Q: DOES THE UNITED STATES SUPPORT THE DECISION OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL TO HEAR ARCHBISHOP MAKARIOS IN HIS CAPACITY AS PRESIDENT OF CYPRUS? DID THE UNITED STATES APPROVE THAT?

A: WE DIDN'T MAKE ANY COMMENT ON IT WHEN IT WAS RAISED, SO YOU CAN DRAW ANY CONCLUSION THAT YOU WANT. BUT IN POINT OF FACT, IT HAS NO BEARING ON THE QUESTIONS THAT WE'VE BEEN GETTING HERE FOR THE LAST THREE OR FOUR DAYS.

Q: WHAT IS THE UNITED STATES' POSITION ON THE REPORT MADE BY THE GREEK GOVERNMENT LAST NIGHT TO THE NATO COUNCIL IN BRUSSELS, ON WHAT THE GREEK GOVERNMENT DESCRIBED AS A BRUSSELS, ON WHAT THE GREEK GOVERNMENT DESCRIBED AS A GESTURE, OF REPLACEMENT OF THE GREEK OFFICERS WITH THE CYPRIOT NATIONAL GUARD? DOES THE UNITED STATES CONSTRUE THIS AS HAVING ANY SIGNIFICANCE DIPLOMATICALLY?

A: LET ME REPEAT ONCE AGAIN THAT WE HAVE BEEN URGING ALL THE PARTIES TO TRY AND EXERCISE RESTRAINT. WITH REGARD TO THIS MOVE, WE HOPE IT MAY CONTRIBUTE TO AN EASING OF TENSIONS IN THE AREA.

Q: WELL, THAT'S IN THE CONTEXT OF THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT HAVING ALREADY REJECTED THAT.

A: WELL, THIS IS MY COMMENT. I WAS ASKED FOR OUR COMMENT

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ON THE GREEK STATEMENT IN THE NATO COUNCIL ON THE FACT THAT IT WOULD REPLACE THE 650 OFFICERS, GREEK OFFICERS, ON CYPRUS.

Q: A QUESTION ABOUT THE MAKARIOS MEETING. WILL HE ALSO SEE PRESIDENT NIXON?

A: I HAVE NO INFORMATION ON THAT. YOU WILL HAVE TO ASK SAN CLEMENTE.

Q: IS THERE ANY TRUTH TO THE REPORT THAT THE UNITED STATES IS INTERESTED IN A COMPROMISE SOLUTION IN CYPRUS WITH A LEADER WHO WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE TO GREECE AND TURKEY LIKE GLAVCOS CLERIDES?

A: WELL, I'VE SEEN THIS SPECULATION THAT HAS COME OUT, AND I CAN ONLY TERM IT AS SPECULATION. WE JUST DON'T HAVE ANY COMMENT ON IT AT ALL.

Q: IS THERE ANY TRUTH, IN THE REPORTS OF A SOMEWHAT SHARP DISAGREEMENT BETWEEN THE SECRETARY OF STATE AND MR. CALLAGHAN OVER A POLICY TOWARDS CYPRUS IN THE LAST FEW DAYS?

A: I KNOW OF NO SHARP DISAGREEMENTS BETWEEN THE FOREIGN SECRETARY AND SECRETARY KISSINGER. I KNOW THEY HAVE BEEN IN CONTACT. I CANNOT GIVE YOU THE SUBSTANCE OF THEIR CONVERSATIONS.

Q: SOME OF YOUR COLLEAGUES CONTACTED THIS MORNING HAVE CHARACTERIZED MR. SISCO'S MISSION AS BASICALLY A FACT-FINDING MISSION AND JUDGMENT-DETERMINING MISSION AS OPPOSED TO AN ACTIVE MEDIATING MISSION. THEY SAID THAT HE IS NOT TAKING WITH HIM A GAME PLAN OR ANY SPECIFIC PROPOSALS. WOULD YOU SUBSCRIBE TO THAT? WOULD YOU ALSO CHARACTERIZE THE SISCO MISSION AS A FACT-FINDING MISSION?

A: IN PART, YES. HE'S THERE TO FIND OUT FACTS. BUT, AS I SAID EARLIER, HIS MISSION IS TO TRY AND ENCOURAGE THE PARTIES TO FIND A SOLUTION ACCEPTABLE TO ALL.

Q: DOES HE HAVE WITH HIM SOME SPECIFIC PROPOSALS?

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A: WELL, HE IS GETTING CONSTANT INSTRUCTIONS FROM WASH-IVTON, FROM THE PRESIDENT, FROM SAN CLEMENTE, AND THE SECRETARY IS OUT THERE NOW, AND THERE IS CONSTANT COM-MUNICATION WITH UNDER SECRETARY SISCO. I JUST LEAVE IT THERE.

Q: I HAVE ANOTHER QUESTION ABOUT MAKARIOS.

Q: WHAT WOULD BE THE UNITED STATES ANSWER IF MAKARIOS WOULD ASK FOR HELP IN RESTORING HIM TO POWER?

A I DON'T WANT TO GET INTO SPECULATING ON A HYPOTHETICAL QUESTION HERE AT THE MOMENT. UNQUOTE INGERSOLL

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